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Caldwell-Freed families

[by]

Jean Van Fossan

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REPORT OF MISS JEAN VAN FOSSAN, THOMPSON HALL, LISBON  
OHIO - MAY 16, 1960

Mary Caldwell, of Salem, Ohio, gave me the following information about her great, great grandfather, James Caldwell, who came to Elkrum Twp. Columbiana Co. O., with his wife and family in 1804. The story handed down in the family is that, when James was a small baby his parents, with their family of six children, sailed from Ireland for America. This was 1755 or 1756. There was a great deal of sickness on board and his parents and three of the children died and were buried at sea. James and two brothers survived. Their names were probably Thomas and William because those names occur over and over again in the family. James was brought up by a Quaker family near Philadelphia, Pa. Apparently they had told him of the circumstances surrounding his parents' death, as he had related them to his family. The vessel docked at either Philadelphia or New Castle, Delaware.

Miss Caldwell has no knowledge of what happened to the two brothers of James. She said about the time James and his wife moved to southwestern Pennsylvania, there were many other Caldwells settling in Fayette and Washington counties, Pa. Her father recalled that, when he was a child, relatives from Washington Co, Pa. came to visit them. She does not know the names of James' parents but thinks his father must have been "Thomas" because James named his first son Thomas. That has been customary in the Caldwell family.

Miss Caldwell gave me the following facts about James and his family. She has a record of the names, dates of birth and death and the person they married. These dates she had gotten from bibles, tombstones and members of the family. She did not have the dates of marriage. I got those from the Court House records.

James Caldwell was born in Ireland (or on the way to America) 11-30-1755, died 6-30-1840 - married Rebecca Brooks who was b. 4-12-1759; d. 4-12-1831. They both died in Elkrum Twp. and are buried in Churchhill Cemetery. (I went to the cemetery, which is near where I live. I could make out the Caldwell name on many tombstones but no details).

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They were married in Pennsylvania and most of the children were born there. They came to Ohio from near Brownsville, Washington Co. Pa. in 1804. Their home was close to old Fort Richstone, which is now a museum.

This is the list as Mary Caldwell has it except the marriage dates which I secured at the Court House.

James and Rebecca Caldwell had 10 children.

1. Jerusha b. 2-30-1783; d. May 1868; m. Thomas Farmer
2. Thomas b. 1-16-1785; d. 5-9-1860; m. first Margaret Kinneman 10-29-1811; m. second Mrs. Elizabeth Erwin Garwood.
3. William b. 4-12-1788; d. 9-21-1862; m. Elizabeth Crawford 12-10-1811.
4. Rebecca b. \_\_\_\_; d. \_\_\_\_; m. Peter Freed 9-28-1812 (Miss Caldwell did not have the first name Peter)
5. Elizabeth b. 10-2-1793; d. 11-5-1881; m. Samuel Frederick 5-27-1813.
6. Ann b. 3-22-1793; d. 10-4-1862; m. Jacob Freed 9-5-1836
7. Hannah b. \_\_\_\_; d. \_\_\_\_; m. Richard Harrison 3-3-1825
8. Rachel b. \_\_\_\_; d. \_\_\_\_; m. Bazilla Harrison 9-25-1827
9. James b. 3-10-1800; d. 4-22-1837; m. Susanna Holloway 6-7-1825
10. Garthory b. 12-23-1805; d. 4-11-1888; m. William Smith.

I found records referring to Rebecca Caldwell, who was not the wife of Peter Freed. Vol. 2 - p. 549 in the deed books - Rebecca Caldwell, daughter of James E. Caldwell, bought lot 40 in Fairfield from Alexander Rogers in 1811. Also in Vol. 12 - p. 348 Rebecca Caldwell of Meigs Co. O., sold the same lot 40 to William Caldwell in 1823. According to other records, James Ewen Caldwell mar. Sarah Tucker 7-17-1804. He came from Washington Co., Pa. and apparently had a son William, whose wife was Mary. (He might have been a nephew of James of Elkrum Twp.)

Also I found another Rebecca Freed, who was not the wife of Peter Freed. Probate Court Record Case 11569 Doc. 10 p. 122. Administration Bond and Application for Letters of Administration May 6, 1828. She was a resident of Fairfield Twp. and a widow at the time of her death. Her husband was Jacob Freed and her children were George, Allen, Eve Ann Caldwell, Lydia Ann Caldwell, whose husband was Frank Caldwell, Emanuel, Jefferson, Rebecca, Jane Lodge Eve Freed. Her maiden name was Newhouse.





The reasons why I believe it was Rebecca, daughter of James Caldwell, who married Peter Freed.

**First:-** Peter Freed and Rebecca Caldwell were married 9-28-1812 by Alexander Rogers, J. P. according to Marriage Record Book 1. Note that the other Rebecca Caldwell, mentioned previously, bought lot 40 from Alexander Rogers of Fairfield, which adjoins Elkrun Twp. So they were married by a J. P. who lived near James Caldwell's home.

**Second:-** Peter Freet (in numerous records it would be written Freed - Freet or Fricd) bought part of Range 2 Twp. 11 Sec. 2 in 1815, which adjoins land owned by James and Rebecca Caldwell. The proof of this - Vol. 10 - p. 562 - James Caldwell and Rebecca, his wife, in 1827 sold to William Caldwell part of R. 2 Twp 11 Sec. 5, which James had bought in 1811.

**Third:-** In Vol. 38 - p. 985 Peter Freet and Rebecca, his wife, sold part of R. 2 Twp 11 Sec. 8 to Hugh Mc Pike in 1816. They also bought land in R. 2. Twp 11 Sec. 8 and the same day Thomas Caldwell bought land adjoining theirs. Thomas was a brother of Rebecca's.

In 1831 Peter Freed gave parts of R. 2. Twp. 11. Sec. 6 for school purposes.

**Fourth:-** Vol. 18 - p. 48 Peter Freed and Rebecca, his wife, sold to Thomas Pike parts of Range 2 Twp. 11, Sections 6, 7, 8 in 1833.

In Vol. 30 p. 502 Peter Freed acquired land in R. 4 Twp. 15, Sec. 14 in 1840. This was Hanover Twp.

Vol. 30 - p. 503 Peter Freed and Rebecca, his wife, sold part of R. 4. Twp. 15 Sec. 14 in 1841.

He also owned several lots at Gillford (Guilford) which they sold and Summitville.





History of Columbiana County, Ohio by Ensign - published 1870

p. 271 - In 1808 the families of William Harrison and John Freed settled in West Twp (Ho. 10). John Freed was a native of Fayette Co., Pa.

His children were; - Abram; Henry; John; Barbara, who married Joseph Messimore; Peter; Nancy, who married Jacob Freed; Betsey, who married Jacob Smith; and Jacob.

On p. 131 Peter Freed is named in a list of Householders in Elkrun Twp. District 3, 1828.

In Vol. 2 - p. 616 - Deed - John Freed bought part of R. 5. Twp. 16, Sec. 11 in 1812.

You have the wills of both John and Peter but thought you might like the following information. Mar. Bk. 2 - p. 52 Abraham Freed mar. Catherine Lee 2-10-1820. (this is the right record because in Vol. 10 - p. 312 - Abraham Freed and Catherine his wife sold part of R. 5 Twp. 16 Sec. 14 in 1827. Mar. Bk. 2 - p. 260 Henry Freed married Jane Myers 2-1-1827. Bk. 2 - p. 340 Jacob Freed of West Twp. married Harriet Jennings 2-24-1829. Bk. 2 - p. 272 Joseph Freed married Hannah Snider 9-6-1827. No record for the others except Peter, which you have.

Peter's wife not named in his will (1837) but in the inventory of his property, reference is made to Rebecca, widow of Peter Freed, dec.

Also Vol. 56 - p. 156 in regard to deed for part of R. 4 Twp. 15, Sec. 14 in 1837 Rebecca is named as widow of Peter Freed, dec.

**Children of Peter and Rebecca Freed.**

1. Mar. Bk. 3, p. 232 Joseph Charlton mar. Sarah Freed 8-14-1840
2. Bk. 3 - p. 277 Chockley Harlan mar. Nancy Fried 10-28-1841
3. Bk. 3 - p. 414 William Woodward mar. Rebecca Freed 7-5-1845. New Garden, Hanover Twp.
4. Bk. 3 - p. 466 Peter Freed mar. Martha Lowery 1-28-1847. In Deed Vol. 47 - p. 320 Quit-Claim deed in estate of Jacob Lowery, father of Martha - Signed by Peter Freed and Martha, his wife. Bk. 6 - p. 102 Peter Freed mar. Clementine Taylor 4-4-1871.

Martha must have died before 1857 because Peter signed deeds in his father's estate alone. Then he remarried because in 1872 he and Clementine, his wife, sign a deed To R. 4 - Twp. 15 Sec. 14.





5. Bk. 3, p. 98 William Freed mar. Mary Davis 3-20-1830 and in Bk. 4 - p. 204 William Freed mar. Angeline Hill 11-23-1856. Mary was probably a first wife and Angeline the second. There was no other marriage record for William Freed in Bks. 1, 2, 3 & 4. William and Angeline signed papers in connection with Peter's estate Vol. 58 - p. 156.
6. Bk. 3 - p. 186 Lewis Redman mar. Magdalena Freed 4-15-1838.

Reasons why I (Jean Van Fossan) believe Peter was a son of John Freed:

First:- The Freed family that settled in Elkrun and Fairfield Twp. was a different branch with Jacob as the early settler. The name Peter does not occur among their children.

Second:- In the deed books there are a large number of records with Peter as Grantee or Grantor. I checked every one and they all were connected with two individuals Peter Freed who died 1857 - husband of Rebecca and his son Peter and the deeds were all connected with the property Peter owned in Elkrun Twp., that in Hanover Twp., and the estate of John Freed.

Third:- John Freed owned land in both Range 4 and 5. (I believe that was in his will).

James Caldwell, Sr., father of Rebecca Caldwell Freed, on Feb. 5, 1833 signed an agreement with his three sons, Thomas, William and James, Jr., in which he divided all his real estate among them. They were to let him continue living in the homestead, furnish him with all necessaries and \$6.00 a year for spending money. They were also to pay his funeral expenses. Miss Caldwell has a copy of this agreement. This would explain why he did not have a will.

In the History of the Upper Ohio Valley - pub. 1891 - Vol. 2 p. 495 there is a reference to Thomas Caldwell born 1787, who came with his parents from Virginia to Columbiana Co., Ohio in 1803. His wife's name was Rebecca. They had 9 children - none named except Thomas J. who was still living in 1891. He married Eva A. Freed in 1836. Her parents were Jacob and Rebecca Newhouse Freed - mentioned previously.

In Vol. 2 - p. 493-495 there are several biographical sketches of the sons of James Caldwell, Jr., and his wife, Susannah Holloway Caldwell.





I found no biographical sketches in any other of the Columbiana County histories.

I found no sketches at all about the Freeds.

In History of Columbiana Co. - by Ensign - 1870 - p. 131. James Caldwell was named in a veterans list for Elkrun Twp. 1812. p. 131 - James, Thomas and William Caldwell named in a list of Householders in Elkrun Twp. District No. 2 in 1820.

I presume they would be James, Sr. and his sons, Thomas and William.

In reference to the information sent Mrs. Turrell in Feb. 22, 1932 by A. F. France, I would say he was working on the wrong branch of the family.

Item IV James Caldwell b. 1770 member of Ohio Senate, etc. Galbreath's History of Ohio pub. by Ensign & Co. 1870, Vol. 2 p. 19 states this -

James Caldwell, born in Baltimore, Maryland Nov. 30, 1770. Moved to West Virginia with parents in 1792 - lived in Wheeling. Then moved to St. Clairsville in 1799. He was a member of the Constitutional Convention, etc, etc - in Senate 1811-1812; also connected with State offices 1813-24. Resumed banking business in St. Clairsville - died in Wheeling 1838 - buried at St. Clairsville.

The above shows he had no direct connection with the Columbiana Co. Caldwells.

Mr. France's letter of July 12, 1932 referred to Thomas Caldwell - who married Rebecca. He could be the same Thomas Caldwell I refer to on p. 11 (previous page in this copy by MSH)

I found no biographical sketches on the Harlans.

Probate Records. - The first record was for Ezekiel Harlan, Mary Harlan widow, child Ellwood - date July 1852. Case 3530 C. P. 3 p. 172.

Lewis Harlan, Guardian of Eli W. Harlan, minor child of Margaret Harlan, dec. Case 5751 Dec. 3 p. 2 Aug. 1864.

Ellwood Harlan, Letters of Adm., wife Maria Case 7513 Dec. 4 - p. 429 dated 1874.

Deeds -

Vol. 36 p. 680 Chalkley Harlan Grantee part of R. 4 Twp. 15, Sec. 13 dated 1844.

Vol. 42 - p. 603 Chalkley Harlan, Grantee - Quit Claim deed R. 4 Twp. 15, Sec. 13 - 1849

Vol. 44 p. 235 Chalkley Harlan, Grantee, Lewis Harlan and wife Margaret - Quit Claim Deed - R. 4. Twp. 15 Sec. 13 - date 1856

Vol. 48 p. 226 Chalkley Harlan and Nancy, his wife, Grantor R. 4 Twp. 15 Sec. 13 - 1853



Vol. 61 p. 45 - Chalkley Harlan and Nancy, his wife,  
Grantor to Peter Freed. - Quit Claim Deed R. 4. Twp. 14 Sec,  
13 (property near Summitville) dated 1858.

The next time I (Van Fossan) am in Washington, D. C. -  
probably next fall - I'll check the 1850 Census for Peter and  
Rebecca Freed. That should give ages so birth years can be  
figured. Possibly you have these figures since - as I  
recall you had the census report. Also I may possibly  
check the three or four cemeteries in Hanover Twp. sometime  
this summer. I often do that looking for Rev. Soldiers  
graves. I'll look for their tombstones also John and  
Elizabeth Freeds.

JVF











